

## **REMARKS**

### **I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 5 and 17 have been amended. No New matter has been added.

Claims 1-31 are pending.

### **II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,131,544 to Serres et al. ("Serres"). The Examiner states that Serres discloses each and every limitation of Applicant's claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that Serres fails to disclose each and every limitation of the claims of Applicant's present invention. Specifically, Serres fails to disclose swirl inducing means. The Examiner has inferred that the feature disclosed at reference numeral 11 in the figures of Serres is a swirl inducing means. Applicant respectfully states that this is incorrect. In fact, reference numeral 11 of Serres refers to a central body of revolution arranged inside the chamber of revolution. (See Column 5, lines 59-61 and Figures 1-3 of Serres) This central body of revolution is not a swirl inducing means as described in the claims of the present invention. In contrast to the swirl inducing means of the present invention, the central body of revolution of Serres is contained within the main body of the separator and does not include a swirl of the fluid at the inlet into the separator. Serres fails to teach or even suggest such a limitation.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Application No. 10/821,614  
Amendment dated February 12, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of October 10, 2006

Docket No.: 00885/0201148-US0

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Raffaele A. DeMarco

Registration No.: 54,061

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7700

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant